## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 6, 10, 15 and 21 and cancel Claims 25-27 as indicated:

1. (currently amended) A method for co-operative thermal management of a plurality of independent electronic devices housed within a common enclosure, said method comprising:

designating a priority number for each of said plurality of independent electronic devices, wherein each of said plurality of independent electronic devices has a thermal controller;

in response to a failure of at least one cooling fan coupled with said common enclosure. measuring a temperature of each of said plurality of independent electronic devices; and for each of said plurality of independent electronic devices:

determining if said measured temperature exceeds a threshold value for said independent electronic device;

in response to a determination that said measured temperature exceeds a threshold value, initializing a count-down value to said designated priority number of said independent electronic device;

counting down said count-down value as long as said measured temperature exceeds said threshold value; and

in response to said count-down value reaching a pre-determined action level, powering down said independent electronic device.

- 2. (original) The method for co-operative thermal management as recited in Claim 1, wherein said initializing a count-down value further includes initiating an interval timer.
- 3. (original) The method for co-operative thermal management as recited in Claim 1, wherein said initializing a count-down value further includes waiting a first predetermined period of time before repeating said measuring a temperature of said independent electronic device in response to a determination that said measured temperature does not exceed said threshold value.
- 4. (original) The method for co-operative thermal management as recited in Claim 2, wherein said measuring a temperature further includes:

determining if said count-down value is equal to zero; and

powering-down said independent electronic device in response to a determination that said count-down value is equal to zero, otherwise waiting a second predetermined period of time before obtaining a second temperature measurement of said independent electronic device and determining if said second temperature measurement exceeds said threshold value.

5. (previously presented) The method for co-operative thermal management as recited in Claim 4, wherein said measuring a temperature further includes:

determining if said interval timer has expired in response to a determination that said second temperature measurement exceeds said threshold value; and

decrementing said count-down value, and subsequently reinitiating said interval timer and repeating said determining if said count-down value is equal to zero in response to a determination that said interval timer has expired, otherwise repeat waiting a second predetermined period of time before obtaining a temperature measurement.

6. (currently amended) A method for co-operative thermal management of a plurality of independent electronic devices housed within a common enclosure, said method comprising;

designating a priority number for each of said plurality of independent electronic devices. wherein each of said plurality of independent electronic devices has a service processor that remains operational when said electronic device is powered down; and

in response to a failure of at least one cooling fan coupled with said common enclosure, measuring a temperature of each of said plurality of independent electronic devices, and for each of said plurality of independent electronic devices:

determining if said measured temperature exceeds a threshold value for said independent electronic device;

in response to a determination that said measured temperature exceeds a threshold value, initializing a count-down value to said designated priority number of said independent electronic device;

counting down said count-down value as long as said measured temperature exceeds said threshold value; and

in response to said count-down value reaching a pre-determined action level, powering down said independent electronic device.

- 7. (original) The method for co-operative thermal management as recited in Claim 6, wherein said initializing a count-down value further includes initiating an interval timer.
- 8. (original) The method for co-operative thermal management as recited in Claim 7, wherein said measuring a temperature further includes:

determining if said count-down value is equal to zero; and

powering-up said independent electronic device in response to a determination that said count-down value is equal to zero, otherwise waiting a second predetermined period of time before obtaining a second temperature measurement of said independent electronic device and determining if said second temperature measurement exceeds said threshold value.

9. (previously presented) The method for co-operative thermal management as recited in Claim 8, further comprising:

determining if said interval timer has expired in response to a determination that said second temperature measurement does not exceed said threshold value; and

decrementing said count-down value, and subsequently reinitiating said interval timer and repeating said determining if said count-down value is equal to zero in response to a determination that said interval timer has expired, otherwise repeat waiting a second predetermined period of time before obtaining a temperature measurement.

- An electronic device, comprising: 10. (currently amended)
  - a designated priority number; and
  - a thermal controller, including:

means for, in response to a failure of at least one cooling fan coupled with said electronic device, measuring a temperature of said electronic device;

means for determining if said measured temperature exceeds a threshold value for said electronic device;

means for, responsive to a determination that said measured temperature exceeds a threshold value, initializing a count-down value to said designated priority number of said electronic device;

means for counting down said count-down value as long as said measured temperature exceeds said threshold value; and

means for, responsive to said count-down value reaching a pre-determined action level, powering down said electronic device.

- 11. (original) The electronic device as recited in Claim 10, wherein said thermal controller is embodied in a service processor that remains operational when said electronic device is powered down.
- 12. (original) The electronic device as recited in Claim 10, wherein said thermal controller powers down said electronic device in response to a determination that said measured temperature exceeds said threshold value and said count-down value is equal to zero.
- 13. (original) The electronic device as recited in Claim 11, wherein said service processor powers up said electronic device in response to a determination that said measured temperature does not exceed said threshold value and said count-down value is equal to zero.
- 14. (original) The electronic device as recited in Claim 11, wherein said electronic device is a server blade.
- 15. (currently amended) A data processing system, comprising:

an enclosure; and

- a plurality of independent electronic devices housed within said enclosure, wherein each of said plurality of independent electronic devices having:
  - a designated priority; and
  - a thermal controller, including:

means for, in response to a failure of at least one cooling fan coupled with said enclosure, measuring a temperature of said independent electronic device; means for determining if said measured temperature exceeds a threshold value for said independent electronic device;

means for, responsive to a determination that said measured temperature exceeds a threshold value, initializing a count-down value to said designated priority number of said independent electronic device;

means for counting down said count-down value as long as said measured temperature exceeds said threshold value; and

means for, responsive to said count-down value reaching a pre-determined action level, powering down said electronic device.

- 16. (original) The data processing system as recited in Claim 15, further comprising:
- a backplane coupled to said plurality independent electronic devices; and a plurality of fans.
- 17. (original) The data processing system as recited in Claim 15, wherein said thermal controller is embodied in a service processor that remains operational when said independent electronic device is powered down.
- 18. (original) The data processing system as recited in Claim 15, wherein said thermal controller powers down said independent electronic device in response to a determination that said measured temperature exceeds said threshold value and said count-down value is equal to zero.
- 19. (original) The data processing as recited in Claim 17, wherein said service processor powers up said independent electronic device in response to a determination that said measured temperature does not exceed said threshold value and said count-down value is equal to zero.
- 20. (original) The data processing system as recited in Claim 15, wherein said independent electronic device is a server blade.
- 21. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer executable instructions for implementing a method for co-operative thermal management of a plurality of independent electronic devices housed within a common enclosure, said computer

executable instructions when executed by one of said plurality of independent electronic devices perform the steps of:

designating a priority number for said independent electronic device,

in response to a failure of at least one cooling fan coupled with said common enclosure, measuring a temperature of said independent electronic device;

determining if said measured temperature exceeds a threshold value for said independent electronic device;

in response to a determination that said measured temperature exceeds a threshold value, initializing a count-down value to said designated priority number of said independent electronic device and initiate an interval timer:

counting down said count-down value as long as said measured temperature exceeds said threshold value; and

in response to said count-down value reaching a pre-determined action level, powering down said independent electronic device.

22-27. (cancelled)